

## **IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.     **(Currently Amended)**     A capsule (1) used to prepare an infused beverage, comprising a first container (6) made of a substantially flexible material and containing a powdered infusion substance (MI), and a second container (2), attached to the first container (6), made of a substantially rigid material and containing a powdered soluble substance (MS), wherein at least the top of the capsule is covered by a ~~removably~~ removable sheet (10) of protective material and the flexible first container (6) comprises a self-contained and fully enclosed pod (~~6~~) made of filter paper or other similar filter material placed inside the ~~second~~ first container, and wherein the filter paper or filter material of the pod contains the powdered infusion substance (MI) therein after the removable sheet (10) has been removed.
2.     **(Original)**     The capsule according to claim 1, characterised in that the flexible first container (6) is attached to the rigid second container (2) by heat sealing.
3.     **(Original)**     The capsule according to claim 1, characterised in that the flexible first container (6) is attached to the rigid second container (2) by gluing.
4.     **(Original)**     The capsule according to claim 1, characterised in that the flexible first container (6) is attached to the rigid second container (2) by ultrasound sealing.
- 5-6.   **(Cancelled)**
7.     **(Previously Presented)**     The capsule according to any of the foregoing claims from 1 to 4, characterised in that the rigid second container (2) comprises a cartridge (2) made of a food safe plastic material.

8.     **(Original)**     The capsule according to claim 7, characterised in that the bottom surface (3) of the cartridge (2) has a hole (4) in it, covered by a seal (5) of suitable material designed to be pierced or removed.

9.     **(Original)**     The capsule according to claim 8, characterised in that the seal (5) constitutes a portion of the bottom surface (3) of the cartridge (2).

10.    **(Previously Presented)**    The capsule according to claim 8, characterised in that the rigid second container (2) comprises a cartridge (2) made of a food safe plastic material; the seal (5) constitutes a portion of the bottom surface (3) of the cartridge (2); and the pod (6) of filter paper has an annular outer edge (8) fixed to a matching annular protuberance (9) on the plastic cartridge (2), at the top (7) of the cartridge (2) itself.

11.    **(Previously Presented)**    The capsule according to claim 10, characterised in that the sheet (10) of protective cover material is removably placed over the top of the filter paper pod (6); the sheet (10) being fixed to the edge of the outer protuberance (9) of the cartridge (2).

12.    **(Previously Presented)**    The capsule according to claim 1, characterised in that the infusion substance (MI) comprises powdered coffee.

13.    **(Previously Presented)**    The capsule according to claim 1, characterised in that the soluble substance (MS) comprises powdered milk and/or creamer and similar soluble substances.

14.    **(Cancelled)**

15.    **(Previously Presented)**    The capsule according to claim 1, characterised in that the rigid second container (2) comprises a cartridge (2) made of a food safe plastic material.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The capsule according to claim 1, characterised in that the rigid second container (2) comprises a cartridge (2) made of a food safe plastic material.

17. **(Previously Presented)** The capsule according to claim 15, characterised in that the bottom surface (3) of the cartridge (2) has a hole (4) in it, covered by a seal (5) of suitable material designed to be pierced or removed.

18. **(Previously Presented)** The capsule according to claim 16, characterised in that the bottom surface (3) of the cartridge (2) has a hole (4) in it, covered by a seal (5) of suitable material designed to be pierced or removed.

19. **(Previously Presented)** The capsule according to claim 17, characterised in that the seal (5) constitutes a portion of the bottom surface (3) of the cartridge (2).

20. **(Previously Presented)** The capsule according to claim 18, characterised in that the seal (5) constitutes a portion of the bottom surface (3) of the cartridge (2).

21. **(Previously Presented)** The capsule according to claim 9, characterised in that the rigid second container (2) comprises a cartridge (2) made of a food safe plastic material; the seal (5) constitutes a portion of the bottom surface (3) of the cartridge (2); and the pod (6) of filter paper has an annular outer edge (8) fixed to a matching annular protuberance (9) on the plastic cartridge (2), at the top (7) of the cartridge (2) itself.

22. **(Currently Amended)** A capsule (1) used to prepare an infused beverage, comprising a first container (6) made of a substantially flexible material and containing a powdered infusion substance (MI), and a second container (2), attached to the first container (6), made of a substantially rigid material and containing a powdered soluble substance (MS), wherein the bottom surface (3) of the second container (2) has a hole (4)

in it, covered by a seal (5) of suitable material designed to be pierced when the capsule has to be used, and to re-close the hole when the capsule has already been used, and wherein the powdered infusion substance (MI) is retained in a self-contained and fully enclosed filter membrane pod that is contained withinin the first container after a removable sheet has been removed from a top surface of the capsule.

23. **(Currently Amended)** A capsule (1) used to prepare an infused beverage, comprising a first container (6) made of a substantially flexible material and containing a powdered infusion substance (MI), and a second container (2), attached to the first container (6), made of a substantially rigid material and containing a powdered soluble substance (MS), wherein the rigid second container (2) comprises a cartridge (2) made of a food safe plastic material and the flexible first container (6) ~~comprises~~ retains therein a self-contained and fully enclosed pod (6) made of filter paper or other similar filter material having an annular outer edge (8) fixed to a matching annular protuberance (9) on the plastic cartridge (2), at the top (7) of the cartridge (2), wherein the filter paper or filter material of the pod contains the powdered infusion substance (MI) therein after a cover sealing the capsule is removed from a top surface of the capsule itself.